DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Ufra Kelley DATE 11/24/98
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
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EXCISE

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Israel and has the honor to present in accordance with accepted principles of international law a claim for $177,000 on behalf of [redacted] and an unborn child, and a claim for $40,000 on behalf of [redacted] the widow, children and parents, respectively, of [redacted], a member of the United States Armed Forces who was killed while serving aboard the U.S.S. Liberty when it was attacked by Israeli air and naval units on June 8, 1967.

It is established from evidence available to the Government of the United States that [redacted] is now and has been a citizen of the United States since July 11, 1945, the date of her birth at Foley, Alabama, that she was married to the decedent at the time of death, and that such marriage occurred on November 19, 1963; that as a result of such marriage [redacted] was born on August 8, 1964 and a second child is expected in November or December 1967.

It is also established that [redacted] are the natural parents of the decedent and are now and have been citizens of the United States since June 25, 1917 and August 22, 1920, respectively, the date of their births in Sevier County, Tennessee.

The evidence further establishes that the decedent [redacted] was a citizen of the United States since November 4, 1942, the date of his birth at Sevierville, Tennessee, was a member of the United States Armed Forces stationed aboard the U.S.S. Liberty on June 8, 1967, and was killed as a result of the Israeli attack.

The amount of the claim for the surviving wife and children is based upon the loss of special services the decedent would have performed, shock and mental anguish suffered as a result of the death and the loss of financial contributions the decedent would have made towards their support. In determining the latter amount consideration has been given to the age of the decedent at the time of death; the number of years decedent would have been employed; the actual yearly salary at the time of death; the average yearly salary projected over the years the decedent would have been employed; the expenses decedent would have incurred over the years such as family expenses, income taxes and personal expenses, and the present worth of the contributions.

The amount of the claim for the surviving parents includes a specific allowance for shock and emotional anguish suffered by the parents as a result of the violent severing of family ties. It also includes an allowance for future support, services and other benefits which the decedent could reasonably be expected to have provided to his parents.

The Embassy of the United States confidently anticipates on the basis of assurances previously given by the Government of Israel that the Government of Israel promptly will compensate the United States on behalf of the widow, children and parents of [redacted] for the amount claimed.